

Senate Resolution 285

By: Senators Mullis of the 53rd, Pearson of the 51st, Douglas of the 17th and Thomas of the 54th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Major Shannon Michael McConnell; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Major Shannon Michael McConnell has long been recognized by the citizens
3 of his community and state for the vital role that he has played in leadership and his deep
4 personal commitment to the welfare of the citizens of the United States; and

5 WHEREAS, our nation's security continues to rely on patriotic men and women who put
6 their personal lives on hold in order to place themselves in harm's way to protect the
7 freedoms that all United States citizens cherish; and

8 WHEREAS, a graduate from the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York,
9 Major McConnell began his military career in 1990 as a second lieutenant assigned to a 6-1
10 Field Artillery in Vilseck, Germany, serving as fire direction officer, platoon leader, infantry
11 company fire support officer, battalion nuclear & biological warfare officer, assistant
12 maintenance officer, and executive officer for Service Battery; and

13 WHEREAS, after being promoted to first lieutenant, Major McConnell was assigned to Fort
14 Sill, Oklahoma, and then to Fort Stewart, Georgia, where he served as fire support officer for
15 the Second Squadron, Fourth Cavalry, and the battalion intelligence officer and battalion
16 adjutant officer of the 3-41 FA Squadron; and

17 WHEREAS, during his service to the military, Major McConnell has served in other
18 capacities, such as headquarter battalion commander for the Pennsylvania National Guard
19 in Wilkes Barre and the Tennessee National Guard in Knoxville and the regimental fire
20 support officer for the Tennessee National Guard; and

21 WHEREAS, this distinguished and decorated serviceman has earned such honors as two
22 Army Achievement Awards, two Army commendation Awards, an Overseas Service Ribbon,
23 and an Army Service Ribbon; and

24 WHEREAS, Major McConnell is scheduled for a year-long deployment to Afghanistan
25 where he will work in the Infantry Unit to train the Afghan Army; and

26 WHEREAS, a resident of LaFayette, Georgia, Major McConnell is united in love and
27 marriage to Cynthia M. McConnell and has been blessed with two wonderful children, Ryan
28 and Catherine; and

29 WHEREAS, Major McConnell embodies the spirit of service, willing to find meaning in
30 something greater than himself and serving as a guardian of this nation's freedom, and it is
31 abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this remarkable and
32 distinguished American be recognized appropriately.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
34 commend Major Shannon Michael McConnell for his efficient, effective, unselfish, and
35 dedicated public service to the citizens of his country and state and extend to his family their
36 most profound appreciation for all members of the United States military who stand ever
37 ready to lay the ultimate sacrifice upon the altar of freedom.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
39 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Major Shannon Michael McConnell.